## **Amendments to the Claims:**

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

## **Listing of Claims:**

1

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for block encryption of discrete data, comprising the steps of: generating an encryption key in the form of a set of subkeys, breaking down a data block into  $N \ge 2$  subblocks and <u>alternately</u> converting <u>in turn</u> said subblocks by performing a two-place operation on the subblock and the subkey, <u>wherein</u>, <u>prior to carrying out said two-place operation on i-th subblock and subkey, a substitution operation is performed on the subkey depending on j-th subblock charaterised by transforming the subkey with the operation of transposing bits, which changes initial sequence of the subkey bits and depends on the j-th subblock prior to performing the two-place operation on the i-th subblock, where  $i \ne j$ .</u>

Claim 2 (previously presented): The method according to claim 1, wherein an operation of permuting subkey bits depending characterised in that data dependent permuting subkey bits is used as data-dependent operation that depends on the j-th subblock is used as the j-th subblock-dependent substitution operation.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The method according to claim 21, wherein an operation of cyclic offsetting subkey bits depending characterised in that data-dependent rotation of subkey bits is used as data-dependent operation that depends on the j-th subblock is used as the j-th subblock-dependent operation of permuting subket bits.

Claim 4 (cancelled)